

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State churches that have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Saint Peter African Methodist Episcopal Church in north Saint Louis, Missouri, was founded in 1847 by the Reverend Spotswood Rice as the second AME church west of the Mississippi River and the sixth black congregation in Saint Louis; and

Whereas, during the year 2007, Saint Peter AME Church celebrates the One Hundred Sixtieth Anniversary of its founding; and

Whereas, the African Methodist Episcopal Church was the first black denomination organized in North America and was initially known as the Free African Society in 1787; and

Whereas, founded by Richard Allen and a group of slave and free persons from Saint George Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, the Free African Society was renamed as the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1816; and

Whereas, the African Methodist Episcopal Church became known for its principles of self-help, mutual aid, and freedom fighting and as the founder of the first black university in America, Wilberforce University, and the first black newspaper, The Christian Recorder; and

Whereas, the African Methodist Episcopal Church has established seventeen colleges and seminaries rooted in African Methodism; and

Whereas, Saint Peter AME moved to the corner of Elliot and Montgomery in 1866, worshiped in a variety of locations from 1927 to 1934 when a tornado left the congregation without facilities, rebuilt a church at the Elliot and Montgomery location, and then moved in 1962 to its current place at the corner of Margarett and Shreve where today the Reverend Anthony Steele, Sr., serves as its dynamic and committed pastor:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with Saint Peter AME Church and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they celebrate the One Hundred Sixtieth Anniversary of the founding of their religious institution; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Saint Peter African Methodist Episcopal Church of Saint Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Jamilah Nasheed
District No. 60

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. ____, adopted ____, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker